



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 150

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, MAY 3, 2004

No. 59

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 4, 2004, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, MAY 3, 2004

The Senate met at 1 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable GORDON SMITH, a Senator from the State of Oregon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

God of grace, glory, and power, the battle belongs to You. Thank You that though the storms rage, we can still anchor our hopes in Your might. Lord, we hear the sounds of conflict as people imagine vain things about Your loving providence. Forgive us for our fear of the future when we forget how You have led us in the past. Forgive us also for our haste to paint a caricature of the many because of the pathology of the few. Remind us that fierce winds bring no anxiety to those who keep their eyes on You.

Lord, the challenges that we face are too complex for human reasoning alone, so imbue our leaders with Your wisdom that they may know the road to take. Sustain those who courageously bear the weight of combat and battle the fog of armed conflict. We praise You for the joy of those who are experiencing reunion with loved ones who have been rescued from danger. But we ask that You would bring comfort to those who mourn and to those who know the terror of anticipatory grief.

And, Lord, we pray also for our enemies, that they may know the clarity of Your will. Carve tunnels of hope through mountains of despair and let the peace we seek in our world be conceived first in our hearts. Hasten the

day when we will lay down our swords and shields and study war no more.

We pray this in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable GORDON H. SMITH led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 3, 2004.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable GORDON H. SMITH, a Senator from the State of Oregon, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. SMITH thereupon assumed the Chair.

LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period of leader time under the standing order.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Kentucky is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. McCONNELL. Today, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 2 p.m. Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1637, the FSC/ETI JOBS bill. We have locked in a limited list of amendments to that bill, and it is the leader's intention to complete action on the bill this week. The chairman and ranking member of the Finance Committee will be here throughout the afternoon to work through these amendments. It is our hope that amendments will be offered and debated during today's session.

As announced last week, there will be no rollcall votes today. Any votes ordered with respect to amendments during today's session will be set aside to occur tomorrow.

I ask unanimous consent the morning business time be equally divided in the usual form.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 4181 AND S. 2370, EN BLOC

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand that there are two bills at the desk due a second reading. I ask

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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